

CESAM-PD-EC/CESAM-EN-HH

November 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes from the Northern Gulf of Mexico Regional Sediment Management Demonstration Technical Working Group Meeting, 27-28 September 2000

1. The US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District (CESAM), hosted the fourth meeting of the Northern Gulf of Mexico Regional Sediment Management (RSM) Demonstration Program's, Technical Working Group (TWG) on 27-28 September 2000 at the Holiday Inn Destin, Florida. The meeting agenda and list of attendees are provided as Enclosures 1 and 2, respectively. Susan Rees, CESAM, began the meeting with introductions and opening remarks.

2. On the first morning (27 Sept.), Larry Parson, CESAM, provided a brief RSM program overview, presented program status and accomplishments during FY00, and identified proposed FY01 activities. The most significant accomplishments include: improved communications between agencies, baseline data collection and modeling, GIS development, sub-regional workshops, and identification of program benefits. Activities for FY01 will require continuation of many of the FY00 activities. Additional proposed activities include the following:

- a. expansion of RSM into Mississippi
- b. orthorectify aerial imagery for Alabama
- c. economic valuation beaches
- d. environmental modeling
- e. organize sub-committees for monitoring program, GIS, and hurricane preparedness
- f. implement management practices

3. Next, Roxanne Dow, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), discussed RSM from the FDEP's perspective. The 1998 Legislative Intent declared beach restoration to be in the public interest. However, the restoration must be cost efficient, prioritize regions, provide long-term solutions, make project performance an important criterion, and provide long-term funding. FDEP's objective towards regional management is to develop a long range Beach Management Plan for beach erosion control, restoration and storm protection. This has been accomplished in the northern Gulf of Mexico through the development of the Strategic Beach Management Plan for the Florida panhandle. Components of the beach management plan include statewide strategic planning for critically eroding areas, implementation of inlet management plans, and long term financial planning. The beach management plan will be implemented through the long-range budget plan and will focus on sand bypassing, feeder beaches, removing obstacles to coastal processes, restoring and maintaining critically eroding shorelines, provide regional linkages, reduce costs, and improve project performance.

4. Phillip Hinesley, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), discussed the role of the Alabama Coastal Program in shoreline management. At the time of the meeting, the Alabama Coastal Program was managed under ADECA. The Coastal Programs has since been moved under the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR). The Alabama coastline consists of 38 miles of shoreline and receives less than \$1

Million/year towards coastal management. For the last 11 years, Alabama has conducted annual aerial photography to monitor the coastline. In addition to aerial photography, beach profiles data has been periodically compiled along the state's 38 miles of shoreline. The profile data has been collected along 22 established profile stations. The beach profile collection program was set up and implemented by the University of South Alabama.

5. The status of the regional modeling effort was presented by Linda Lillycrop, CESAM. A baseline data set was collected to define the existing conditions of the demonstration area. The baselining effort consists of a compilation of bathymetric and topographic data, beach profile, and aerial photography, and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) digital nautical chart data. This information as well as historical data has been combined towards developing the regional sediment budget using the geo-referenced Regional Sediment Budget Analysis System (SBAS). The sediment budget is being refined and updated as additional data sets and analyses become available. Hydrodynamic models being used in support of developing the regional sediment budget include the ADCIRC circulation model the STWAVE wave transformation model and the shoreline change model GENESIS.

6. A regional data management and Geographic Information System (GIS) is being assembled to manage, analyze, share, and view historic and recently collected data, as well as numerical model results. These data will be crucial to evaluating decisions concerning regional sediment management. Information compiled through the collection of the baseline and historical data will be used in calibrating and verifying the sediment budget models. This effort is being coordinated with various state and local agencies. Lynn Hardegree, CESAM, demonstrated the function and capabilities of the current GIS tools. To maximize the sharing of data and eliminate duplication, this GIS forms the backbone for standardizing formats and producing easily accessible information. The GIS database is continually updated as information is made available.

7. The purpose of evaluating new management practices is not only to determine whether or not they meet the objectives of RSM but also to assess resulting benefits to justify if they are worthy of further consideration. Identifying and evaluating such benefits was addressed by Bruce Carlson of the Institute for Water Resources (IWR). When evaluating performance of the projects, two categories of benefits will be considered: project benefits and process benefits. The project benefits are considered to be synonymous with the Federal objective pertaining to the four accounts dealing with the National Economic Development (NED), Regional Economic Development (RED), Environmental Quality (EQ), and Other Social Effects (OSE). In addition to those benefits, many other intangible benefits are being realized as a direct result of Mobile District's RSM program. These benefits are the process benefits or those derived through the regional management implementation process. Of particular concern is the identification and evaluation of environmental benefits.

8. Cathay (CJ) Windsor from Eglin Air Force Base provided an overview on management of shorelines that are within their property. A significant stretch of the RSM demonstration area shoreline falls within the US Air Force property. Eglin experiences encroachment pressures from the surrounding communities and regulatory agencies. It is important to understand the coastal management practices in place at Eglin and to develop a partnership that satisfies common objectives. Ms. Windsor extended an invitation to the RSM program to attend one of their encroachment committee meetings to brief the committee on RSM.

9. One of the main project initiatives identified by RSM program is East Pass, which was the subject of the field trip that occupied the remainder of the day. The initiative involves overcoming the issues pertaining to bypassing sand downdrift of East Pass. The inlet management plan for East Pass recommends bypassing most of the maintenance dredge material up to 2700 ft west of west jetty, either directly on the beach or in the nearshore. However, this involves alternative measures to protect Norriego point in order to make the sand available for bypassing downdrift. For this to be accomplished requires cooperation and partnerships between the Corps, FDEP, Okaloosa County, the City of Destin, and Eglin AFB. Bypassing operations will increase the cost of maintenance dredging operations. Before breaking for the field trip, Paden Woodruff, FDEP, and Terry Jangula, CESAM, presented an overview of the East Pass issues and current maintenance practices. The meeting broke for lunch and reconvened for the boat field trip in and around East Pass.

10. The TWG meeting resumed the following morning (28 September) with presentations from various partnering agencies summarizing their involvement pertaining to shoreline studies, data collection, and management activities. Presentations were given by the following:

Lisa Robbins - USGS, Center for Coastal Geology
Rebecca Smith - NAVO, Northern Gulf of Mexico Littoral Initiative
John Rowland - Minerals Management Service
William Straw - FEMA
Bob Mink - Geological Survey of Alabama
Mike Hemsley - NOAA, National Data Buoy Center.

The presentations and resulting discussion demonstrated the coastal diversity represented within the TWG and the opportunities for each agency to leverage the available capabilities and resources towards accomplishing the goals of regional sediment management. The presentations also made apparent the value of benefits gained from regional sediment management towards accomplishing the goals and missions of the RSM partners.

11. The meeting concluded with discussion of actions items identified during the course of the meeting. The action items are as follows:

- a. RSM Team brief Eglin Encroachment Center on RSM (General and Specific)
- b. Brief USGS/St. Petersburg on RSM practices
 - RSM Team & Charley Chestnut
- c. Finalize plan for the East Pass - Cost differences
 - USACE/FDEP/Eglin
- d. Public Outreach – Debris/sand removal following storms
- e. Establish subcommittee – Monitoring/GIS/Data Management
- f. Coordinate with Tri State G.S. Consortium members regarding data transfer and GIS formation
- g. Establish subcommittee – hurricane preparedness (FEMA, state EMA representative)

h. Pre-identification/pre-clearance of terrestrial/back bay sources

The action items of particular importance is the establishment of the monitoring, GIS, and hurricane sub-committees. These sub-committees will be instrumental in accomplishing many of the tasks identified by the demonstration initiatives. TWG members should provide their names to Larry Parson or Linda Lillycrop if they are interested in serving as a sub-committee member.

12. The next TWG meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 2001. However, the final date will be dependent upon the CERB Sub-committee schedules.

REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT DEMONSTATION PROGRAM

Technical Working Group Meeting Agenda

September 27-28, 2000
 Holiday Inn
 Destin, Florida

September 27, 2000

Time	Speaker	Topic
0830-0840	Welcome and Introductions	Rees
0840-0910	Status: Mobile RSM Demonstration Program	Parson
0910-0940	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Strategic Beach Management Plan – Panhandle	Dow
0940-1000	ADECA/ADEM - State of Alabama Coastal Program	Hinesley
1000-1020	Status: Regional Sediment Budget	Lillycrop
1020-1030	Break	
1030-1050	Status: Data Management Tool & GIS	Hardegree
1050-1110	Status: Economic Analysis/Benefits	Carlson
1110-1130	Eglin Air Force Base:	Windsor
1130-1150	Project Review: East Pass, Florida	Woodruff
1150-1210	Field Trip Information	Jangula
1210-1330	Lunch	
1330-1630	Field Trip – East Pass, FL	

REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT DEMONSTATION PROGRAM
Technical Working Group Meeting Agenda

September 27-28, 2000
Holiday Inn
Destin, Florida

September 28, 2000

Time	Speaker	Topic
0830-0840	Welcome	Rees
0840-0900	NAVO - Northern Gulf of Mexico Littoral Initiative	Smith
0900-0920	USGS - Coastal and Nearshore Erosion Studies	Robbins
0920-0940	MMS – Sand Sources Studies	Rowland
0940-1000	FEMA - Emergency Preparation and Response	Straw

1000-1020 Break

1020-1040	GSA – Northeast Gulf of Mexico State Geological Surveys Consortium	Mink
1040-1100	NDBC - Meteorological and Oceanographic Measurement Program	Hemsley
1100-1200	Discussion/Action Items	

Enclosure 1 (cont'd)

Regional Sediment Management Technical Working Group Meeting - September 2004 List of Attendees

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Information contained here is preliminary subject to change

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